

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Control:
Rec'd:

18374
JULY 28 1959
1825

EUR

FROM: GENEVA

Info

TO: Secretary of State

SS

NO: SECTO 404, JULY 28, 1 AM

INR

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT SECTO 404; REPEATED INFORMATION MOSCOW 47,
PARIS 37, LONDON 65, BONN 34, BERLIN 31.

EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADORS MOSCOW, LONDON AND BONN.

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SUBJECT: PRIVATE SESSION.

AT LLOYD'S WORKING TEA TODAY TWO-HOUR DISCUSSION WITH GROMYKO
WAS FOR THE MOST PART REPETITION OF THE STERILE PERFORMANCE
TO WHICH WE HAVE BECOME ACCUSTOMED IN OUR PRIVATE TALKS
SINCE RECONVENING JULY 13. VIRTUALLY ONLY PROGRESS, IF IT
CAN BE CALLED THAT, WAS GROMYKO'S AGREEMENT TO LLOYD'S
SUGGESTION THAT EACH SIDE SPEND TOMORROW DRAFTING ITS VERSION
OF TERMS OF A BERLIN SETTLEMENT FOR DISCUSSION POSSIBLY
WEDNESDAY MORNING. ALSO GROMYKO MAY HAVE INTENDED SLIGHTLY
TO RELAX HIS INSISTENCE ON LINK BETWEEN BERLIN SETTLEMENT
AND ALL-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS ALTHOUGH HE CONTINUED, DESPITE
SHARP PROBING, PARTICULARLY BY SECRETARY, TO REFUSE TO TAKE
CLEAR STAND ON THIS ISSUE. ON OTHER HAND HIS ADAMANCE ON
NEED FOR WESTERN AGREEMENT TO REDUCE PRESENT TROOP STRENGTH
IN WEST BERLIN REMAINS AS FIRM AS EVER, AND THIS NOW APPEARS
TO BE SOVIET SINE QUA NON OF AGREEMENT ON OTHER ASPECTS
OF BERLIN SETTLEMENT.

LLOYD BEGAN

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396.1-GE/7-2859

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-2- SECTO 404, JULY 28, 1 AM, FROM GENEVA

LLOYD BEGAN MEETING BY REPORTING ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH GROMYKO WHO WAS HIS GUEST AT LUNCH TODAY. GROMYKO HAD FOLLOWING RESERVATIONS ON "DRAFT COMMUNIQUE" WHICH LLOYD HAD DISCUSSED WITH HIM IN GENERAL TERMS:

- (1) IN PREAMBLE, GROMYKO OPPOSED ANY MENTION OF "AGREEMENTS IN FORCE," ASSERTING THAT REFERENCE SHOULD BE TO EXISTING SITUATION ONLY;
- (2) GROMYKO OPPOSED STIPULATING REUNIFICATION AS TERMINAL ✓ POINT OF ARRANGEMENTS; HE INSISTED REFERENCE TO DURATION OF INTERIM SETTLEMENT SHOULD BE CONFINED TO PROVISION THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING, AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED, SHOULD RECONVENE AFTER "X MONTHS" TO DISCUSS BERLIN QUESTION.

AFTER LLOYD'S REPORT, THERE WAS EXTENDED DISCUSSION OF OTHER ASPECTS OF POSSIBLE BERLIN SETTLEMENT OF WHICH FOLLOWING WERE HIGHLIGHTS:

(1) RE TROOP LEVELS, SECRETARY AGAIN STRESSED EXTENT OF CONCESSION BY WEST IN LIMITING STRENGTH TO PRESENT LEVELS AND MADE CLEAR TO GROMYKO THAT THIS WAS FINAL WESTERN OFFER. GROMYKO, HOWEVER, INSISTED THIS REPRESENTED NO CHANGE IN "EXISTING SITUATION" AND WAS THEREFORE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO SOVS. WHEN PRESSED FOR EXPLANATION WHY SOVIETS ATTACH SO MUCH IMPORTANCE TO THIS QUESTION, GROMYKO SAID WESTERN AGREEMENT TO REDUCE TROOP STRENGTH WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL PROOF OF WEST WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH SOVIETS IN REDUCING TENSIONS AND, FURTHERMORE, WOULD DISPEL SOVIET SUSPICIONS THAT WEST INSISTENCE ON PRESENT TROOP LEVELS CONNECTED IN SOME WAY WITH SEVERE PLANS FOR THEIR USE FOR CERTAIN SINISTER PURPOSES, WHICH, HOWEVER, UNKNOWN TO SOVIETS. LLOYD, ON HIS OWN BEHALF, SUGGESTED THIS QUESTION COULD BE LEFT TO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, BUT GROMYKO REPLIED IF FOREIGN MINISTERS COULDN'T REACH UNDERSTANDING, HE DOUBTED IF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO RESOLVE QUESTION. (SIC)

(2) RE BAN

SECRET

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Authority NWD 902436
By (LAW) NARA Date 3/13/61

LLOYD
LEFT TO
MINISTER
OF GOVERNMENT

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-3- SECTO 404, JULY 28, 1 AM, FROM GENEVA

(2) RE BAN ON PROPAGANDA AND SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES, ALL WEST FORMINS MADE CLEAR THERE MUST BE ABSOLUTE RECIPROCITY. GROMYKO, MORE FORTHCOMING THAN PREVIOUSLY, SAID HE WOULD NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF AGREEING ON FORMULA WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR RESTRAINING GDR INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF WEST BERLIN AND, IN ANY CASE, THOUGHT THAT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE FORMULA COULD BE WORKED OUT, BUT IT MUST NOT PLACE RESPONSIBILITY EQUALLY ON BOTH PARTS OF BERLIN.

(3) RE SOVIET JUNE 19 PROPOSAL FOR FOUR-POWER SUPERVISORY COMMISSION, BOTH SECRETARY AND COUVE UNDERLINED INCONSISTENCY IN SOVIET POSITION WHICH OBLIGATED WEST TO ACCEPT SOVIET COMMITMENT WITHOUT INSPECTION ON ACCESS PROCEDURES BUT PRESCRIBED INSPECTION OF WEST COMMITMENTS WITH REGARD TO TROOP LEVELS AND ARMAMENTS. GROMYKO HAD PREVIOUSLY MADE CLEAR COMMISSION'S RESPONSIBILITIES WOULD BE CONFINED TO TROOP LEVELS, ARMAMENTS, AND ACTIVITIES BUT WOULD NOT EXTEND TO ACCESS PROBLEM.

AT LLOYD'S SUGGESTION, GROMYKO, ALTHOUGH FIRST PROPOSING A PLENARY SESSION TOMORROW, AGREED TO DEVOTE THE DAY TO PREPARATION OF PAPERS ON BERLIN SETTLEMENT TO BE DISCUSSED POSSIBLY WEDNESDAY. MEANWHILE, COUVE AND LLOYD WILL LUNCH WITH SECRETARY TOMORROW TO DISCUSS WESTERN PAPER, ANNOUNCING SUBJECT IS DISARMAMENT TO EXPLAIN BRENTANO'S ABSENCE AND ALL THREE WILL MEET WITH BRENTANO AT 3 P.M. IF WESTERN PAPER CLEARED IN TIME AND GROMYKO READY, SECRETARY MAY MEET WITH GROMYKO LATE TOMORROW AFTERNOON TO EXCHANGE PAPERS AND GIVE SECRETARY OPPORTUNITY FURTHER TO PROBE GROMYKO ON RIGIDITY OF HIS POSITION RE AGREEMENT ON TROOP LEVELS AND ALL-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS AS SINE QUA NON BERLIN SETTLEMENT.

HERTER

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